

CIGARETTE PAPERS

By JOSEPH HATTON.

Gainsborough and "The Duchess."

When a friend and connoisseur of art induced Gainsborough to leave Ipswich and try his fortunes at Bath, he took apartments in the Circus at £50 a year. His wife was greatly alarmed at this extravagance; but his friend, Mr. Thicknesse offered to guarantee the rent of a house at £150; and Gainsborough started at this extravagant rate. Before he could finish a head of Mr. Thicknesse, which his friend intended to show by way of advertisement, Gainsborough had more commissions than he could fulfil as rapidly as he desired. So much was he in request that he had to increase his price for a head from five to eight guineas. He painted many at these figures, eventually increasing to forty guineas for a half-length, and a hundred and fifty for a full-length. When he was at the zenith of his fame in London, with the world of fashion before his nose, he felicitated himself on his ability to live at the rate of a thousand a year. If he could only visit the glimpses of the moon just now, and be cognisant of the story of his Duchess, it is difficult to imagine his feelings, the more so, that perfect as everybody thought the famous picture, he confessed that it never quite satisfied him. When he was genius over quite satisfied with it.

Printers on the Move.

Several great printers, it is said, contemplate moving their establishments into the country, where land is cheap, and rates and taxes less onerous than in London. Bookbinders, too, are contemplating a similar migration. If the proprietors of the greater factories took their businesses out of town, they would do no less trade, and London would be relieved of a great deal of dirt that pollutes the atmosphere, and limits London's residential attractions. In these days of the telephone, the electric telegraph, and the motor wagon, there is no reason why all the great manufacturing interests should not make a general stir. There is plenty of land to be sold away—in Essex, more particularly. Moreover, London printers find the competition of many of the big country firms hard to bear. Already one or two London establishments have their own printing offices within twenty or thirty miles of London. The Metropolis, as the years go on, will become more and more a banking and receiving house of the world, and more of a residential and pleasure city.

An Industrial Millennium.

I remember when a lad attending a lecture by the Rev. Charles Kingsley in which he described the city and the suburbs as they should be. I have looked into his published works in the hope of discovering the text of that discourse, but without success. Young as I was, I found the lecturer's style and manner, and the treatment of his subject very fascinating. He dealt with the question of work and recreation, and the relationship of the factory to the home. The picture he drew of the proper place for the workshop was the opposite, however, from that which we are contemplating in the removal of the factory and its smoke stacks from London into the country. His idea was that the city should be the general workshop and centre of trade. The smith, the iron-works, the weaver, the printer, the manufacturer, the banker, and the lawyer, and, indeed, all professions and trades should be located in the city. The workers of all classes should live just beyond its smoke and bustle, their parks and gardens, their clubs and theatres, their schools and colleges, and everything belonging to their social, artistic, and educational life.

Every morning, by daybreak, they should descend into the city, the workshop—and perform their daily labours, and every evening at dusk they should lock up and go to their homes; a charming picture of an industrial millennium.

To-day and Yesterday.

In a measure this ideal of Kingsley is approached by Pullman city, near Chicago, and Port Sunlight, near Birkenhead, in England. In years to come the adjacent towns may gradually hem in at present isolated industrial communities. Meanwhile the surrounding land is comparatively cheap, and even this distant contingency can be avoided by foresight and capital. There is no industry that is not the better for light and air. In the old days printing was an art that did not need machinery of any elaborate kind, and it was ignorant of the motive power of steam. But to-day great printing establishment is as noisy as a great cotton factory. London printing offices used to be dark and dingy. Today some of them are models of cleanliness and order, but in the winter the workers and their work suffer from the same darkness that often prevails in towns while the sun is shining brightly twenty miles away. Fifty years ago there was hardly a building in London that had been designed for a printing office, and such as existed were often in narrow and dark courts. If Dr. Johnson could once more "take a walk down Fleet-street," and a stroll around Ludgate Hill, he would find himself in a world that would be hardly less surprising to him than to Caxton himself. "An Old Printer," with whom I am acquainted knew a man who had printed "The Times" on a hand press. I remember in my father's office a press which was almost an exact model of the old wooden implement which is exhibited in the Passmore Edwards Library in Bridgeman's.

An Hour or Two in Antwerp.

I know men who have been to Antwerp without visiting the Plantin Museum, which takes you back to the earliest printers, and at the same time gives you an introduction to the way in which the great printers practised the graphic arts generally. Plantin's printing office is a palace, and apart from its collection of the materials of Christopher Plantin, the eminent printer himself, the old house is worth a visit. Years ago I spent an hour or two there with Sir Henry Irving, who had the courtyard painted for a scene on the Lyceum stage. Plantin's printing establishment in his time, 1550, and later, was regarded as the finest ornament of Antwerp and one of the wonders of the world. When I saw it last, and as you may see it any day, it has all the charm and quiet that must have been

longed to the practice of the art in the first days of the emancipation of learning from the monk's cell, and the mysterious manuscript. There still exist the old presses, the antique types, the ancient ink slabs, the cumbrous letter boxes, and the earliest engraved blocks. In our day we have a habit of confining a man to one line of work. Is he a painter, he must not be a sculptor. Is he a sculptor, who aspires also to be a painter, we are at liberty to receive his efforts with the proverb, "Let the bubbles stick to his last," and so on. Wenceslaus, Vandervel, and their great contemporaries, not only painted pictures, but worked in every branch of art. You can see examples of the same at the Plantin Museum, and henceforth learn not to despise versatility.

Our Dutch Neighbours.

There are anti-Britishers who try to find a parallel between the Boer War and the Dutch fight for independence in the Netherlands. In the first place, the Boers have none of the characteristics of the Dutch of Leyden's history, except tenacity of purpose. They had the first characteristic of the race, cleanliness, and, in the next, the artistic instinct, and, thirdly, an utter want of honesty and administrative capacity in government. The Dutch of the old world were fighting for religious liberty against the most tyrannical and brutal Power that Providence ever permitted to wield an Imperial sceptre. The Boers have been fighting for conquest, and to uphold an oligarchy that is far more like that against which the Hollanders fought, for which they suffered martyrdom. It has been the business of Dr. Leyds and his mongrel Holland crew to preach the contrary in the Dutchland of our day, and they have also succeeded so well that it is no longer pleasant for Englishmen to travel in the Low Countries, much as we admire the Dutch and delight in visiting their wonderful country. I have often wished that some great capitalist would import a community of Dutch folk into Ewes for the purpose of redeveloping the half-cultivated land into prosperous pastures. Lincolns owe to the Dutch much of their emancipation from the yoke of the Moors. As far as I am concerned, I should be delighted to see the same done to us.

MEDICAL ADVICE.

14. Notices to contain the following particulars:

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OUR OMNIBUS.

THE CONDUCTOR.

Domestic Day has become an institution of the world. As time wears on, the Beaconsfield comes out of the party politics into the broader field of universal fame. He is acknowledged, to-day, even by men who sat opposite to him in Parliament as one of the greatest of British Statesmen. The rise to distinction and power is a



BEACONSFIELD PRIMROSE DAY.
Lesson to aspiring youth, and an example of the free road to greatness that is open to every Briton, however humble his state, whatever his creed or caste. The homage that is annually paid to Lord Beaconsfield's memory is worthy of a great people, and at no previous anniversary of his passing have events pointed so significantly to the wisdom of his far-seeing policy.

The recorded speeches of the illustrious Statesman, whose statue is to-day adorned with memorial wreaths, are full of national lessons, some of which we have begun to lay steadfastly to heart. Here, for example, is an extract from one of his controversial utterances years ago that to-day are practically endorsed by all classes in all parts of the Empire: "I look upon it at this moment that the great advantage that should be cultivated in this country, and especially by the working classes, is the maintenance of the British Empire."

Following this declaration, very appropriate at the time, came a few sentences of statesmen-like wisdom, which cannot now be too emphatically repeated, insisting as they do upon the vast importance of the Empire to the great body of the people. "So long as that Empire is maintained," said Lord Beaconsfield, "it is in the power of any Englishman, if he thinks fit, to seek under every different clime—I may say in every portion of the globe—an opening for his energy, a career of utility, and profit to himself, and yet with the consolatory satisfaction that he still hears his mother tongue, and is still subject to the laws of his country, and with none of those ties, which bind him to sweet home, at all broken or weakened."

And with regard to that road to fame and honour, which is open to the adventurous, the industrious, and talented, passing from the path of statesmanship to that of art, Mr. Luke Fildes, R.A., who is interviewed by our contemporary, the "Pall Mall Gazette," as the artist specially selected to paint the first portrait of King Edward VII., and deemed worthy to discourse on the noblest mission of his craft, is another example of the triumph of patience, perseverance, and merit. Born in a Lancashire village, and studying in a small provincial school of art, Mr. Fildes came to London, without friends, or social influence, to push his way, while comparatively young, into the foremost rank of painters, author of one of the most popular pictures of the day, and honoured by sittings not alone from our leading men and women, but from the principal members of the Royal Family.

If expressed in a somewhat high-falutin' strain, there is plenty of encouraging truth in the Fulverlyton maxim that "In the bright lexicon of youth there is no such word as fail." Young people struggling, with what, at the moment may seem adverse fate, will do well to seek courage in the examples of the men and women who have won success. And when they "get there" we counsel them to wear their laurels with becoming modesty. The feverish seeking after newspaper reclame is to-day one of the worst and saddest blots on some notable reputations.

PIPER PAN.

The new stage arrangements and improvements at Covent Garden are well advanced, although a good deal still remains to be done before the opera season opens on May 18. Almost every stage fitting is now either iron or steel, and electric power will be used everywhere. New rooms for chorus and ballet practice have been built, and dressing rooms for the principal vocalists. A good deal of unnecessary running about will be avoided by the wardrobe rooms being on the O.P. side of the stage, with lifts direct to the dressing rooms. A new iron curtain—the largest in London—has been fixed, and the footlights very much lowered.

Gounod's "Roméo et Juliette" is the opera chosen for the opening night, the ill-fated heroine being impersonated by Madame Faimes, who will make her entrée after an absence of two years, and known by her Galoises. The season promises to be a brilliant one, in spite of the Court being in mourning. There has been a greater run than ever upon the boxes, even the two new ones added by the management being bought up at once. Many people who desired a box for the entire season, are obliged to be content with one for a single night. No commands have yet been received for any of the royal boxes, but all the leading members of the aristocracy are subscribers. Over £22,000 have been spent upon the alterations of the opera-house, which should now take its proper place in the metropolis.

During the first fortnight of the season Dr. Stanford's new opera,

"Much Ado About Nothing" will be produced. Verdi's "Aida" and "Rigoletto" (with new scenery and dresses) will also be heard early in May, followed by "Hansel and Gretel," "Cavaliere Rusticana," "Tristan," "Tannhäuser," and "Faust." Italian operas proper are to receive more attention this year, and performances will be given of "Ophélie," "La Bohème," "La Tosca," "Messalina," "Lucia," "Il Barbiere," and "Meditofele," in addition to those already named.

Madame Calvet has a great wish to appear at Covent Garden this summer, and she specially wishes to sing Messalina, but her health is too uncertain for any definite decision.

Madame Melba intends to be in London during the season, and she will no doubt be heard at the opera, although she has signed no contract yet. Of course there is a long list of artists far too numerous to give in this column, and I am glad to see that there is a fair sprinkling of British names among them.

I am glad to note that Miss Rosina Brandram's name does figure in the cast of "The Emerald Isle," which will be produced at the Savoy on April 27. Other familiar and popular names connected with the opera are Misses Isabel Jay, Louie Pounds, Gaston Murray, Agnes Fraser, and Lulu Evans. Messrs. Walter Passmore, H. A. Lyton, Jones, Hewson, R. Ross, W. H. Leon, P. Pinder, E. Crompton, and Robert Brett.

Between Aug. 21 and Sept. 24 a series of model representations, with strong casts, will be given at Munich of "Tannhäuser," "Lohengrin," "Die Meistersinger," and "Tristan." The many people who have been unable to secure seats for the Bayreuth performances this year, owing to the tickets being sold out, may like to go instead to Munich. By the way, Dr. Richter has decided not to conduct at Bayreuth for the coming festival, and both cycles of the "Ring," and "The Flying Dutchman" will be directed by Herr Siegfried Wagner.

The National Sunday League will give a performance of Gounod's "Redemption" at Queen's Hall on Sunday evening, April 21. The society's choir and orchestra of 300, Misses Agnes Nicholls, Marie Hunter, Helen Palmer, Misses Llewellyn, Chando, Bantock, Pierpoint, Charles Copland, F. R. Kinkes will render the oratorio, which will be conducted by Mr. Churchill Sibley.

WILL WORKMAN.

Mr. Rider Haggard, the well-known novelist, has started on a very big job, that is to get the agricultural labourer "back to the land" as he says in a letter to "The Yorkshire Post." He proposes, with short intervals for rest, between now and autumn, to travel throughout England and parts of Scotland, halting at certain selected centres. From each of these centres he will prosecute his inquiries into the rural conditions which prevail in that district to ascertain, so far as he is able, the actual circumstances of the owner of the soil, the tiller of the soil, and the labourer on the soil.

Of course he will get a great deal of useful information, but as his letter shows he already knows what has driven the labourer of the land; he says "For good or ill, free trade has been introduced, we have learned to live for the most part on foreign produce, which is cheaper than that of our own country, and the mass of the population has gathered into cities that exist for trade and to trade, and while sucking the land of its healthy men and women, care nothing for the land." Quite true, Mr. Rider Haggard, you have "hit it the first time," and now you have found out that free trade has driven the labourer off the land, it should not take you long to find out that fair trade is the only thing that can get him back again.

Amongst the new army regulations I notice a very good one, it is that those soldiers who may later in life suffer from the effects of active service, will have a claim upon the Government. It is ordered that if a soldier, after discharge, be found at a later period incapable of earning a living, by reason of disability, proved to have been contracted in the service, he may be granted a pension, or increase of pension, sufficient for his maintenance. Reservists, Militia-men, Yeomen, and Volunteers, are all included in this order.

Talking about soldiers, I see the War Office has, at last, determined to test the legality of hotel-keepers refusing refreshments to sober soldiers in uniform. Their object is to remove the slur that has so long been attached to our gallant defenders in red, blue, or khaki. A case has occurred at Alton, in which two non-commissioned officers were refused drink, and the authorities have prosecuted the landlord, and the magistrates have sent the case for trial at the quarter sessions, and quite time it was settled once for all. It has been a disgrace and scandal long enough.

And there is another question that ought to be definitely settled, and that is the coster question. It seems the new Borough Councils have much wider powers than the old vestries had, and some of them are beginning to use these powers with the view of clearing out the coster and his stall. For my own part I cannot see any reason why they should want to do it, and above all I fail to see any reason why the shopkeepers should want it done. It always seems to me that the more stalls there are in a street, the better the market, and the more people who come to the market the better for the shopkeepers.

I am sorry to see that, according to the "Labour Gazette," the labour market does not seem quite so flourishing as it did this time last year. Three per cent. of the members of trades' unions were out of employment at the end of last month, compared with two per cent. at the end of March last year. The falling of the iron and steel trade, as well as the cotton and woolen trades. The shipbuilding and glass trades, as well as London Dock and riverside employment, however, show an improvement. Although the changes in rates of wages affected nearly two hundred thousand workpeople the upward and downward movements, as nearly as possible, balanced each other.

THE ACTOR.

One by one the old favourites disappear, and the latest to go is Miss Alice Barnett, at one time so well known as "the Lady Jane of Patience." She was the second of the three notable contraltos who have figured in Gilbert-Sullivan opera. First came Miss Everard, who was the original Mrs. Parrott in "The Sorcerer" and the original Little Buttercup in "Iolanthe." Miss Barnett is the original Ruth in "The Pirates of Penzance." But that is true only of Miss Emily Cross.

The first Gilbert-Sullivan part created by Miss Barnett was in London in 1874. She was Lady Jane in "Iolanthe." After that she left the Savoy, and her place was taken by Miss Rosina Brandram, who began with "Princess Ida," in which she was the Lady Blanche, and went straight through to "The Gondoliers," "Utopia, Limited," and "The Grand Duke." Mr. Gilbert gave Miss Barnett a part in his piece called "His Excellency," but she made no great mark in it. Latterly, I think, she had appeared in musical comedy, as well as in "The Gondoliers." She had a refreshing sense of humour.

Mr. Edgar Bruce had rather faded out of the memories of playgoers. One day he had practically retired from business ever since he became proprietor of the theatre in Coventry-st.

All the bird books that I have access to state that the common gall does not nest so far south as Cornwall, probably, though the popularity of his performance in "The Colonel" was eclipsed latterly by that of Mr. Charles Collette in the same part. His Colonel W. W. Wood was an excellent impersonator; so was his Belvoir in "Engaged." He was very good in "Crutch and Tootie-pick," but his Guy Devereux was hardly epoch-making.

On Monday last the Lyceum was to

itself again. Mr. Bram Stoker "in

front," Mr. Harry Lovday "behind,"

and, on the stage, Sir Henry, and Miss Terry, and Miss Milton, and Mr. Tyras, and young Laurence Irving and such later recruits as Mr. Dodworth, and the like. Programmes once more grin, and in stalls and dress-circle and boxes many of the best-known faces in London. It was a sort of epitome of "Who's Who." Leading littérateurs, painters, actors, novelists, poets, and society people jolted one another in the foyer. Brilliant as are first-night audiences elsewhere, they are never quite so brilliant as when Sir Henry opens a season at the Lyceum.

I confess I grudge to the Lyceum

"Coriolanus" his antique chevelure. Sir

Henry wears a wig of irreproachable

Roman cut, absolutely correct, we

may be sure, from the archaeological

standpoint. But somehow or other I

had rather there had been an

anachronism in the matter. I lost

sight of Sir Henry in "Coriolanus,"

and, though that is artistically right, I

was a pleasure to see "the Chief" in

any circumstances, and, by the bye,

some little time after the curtain fell,

he was visible to his private friends

in his habit as he lives, receiving

congratulations as in the good old

days.

Mr. Forbes Robertson displays great

courage and self-confidence in opening

his comedy season with a drama

from the pen of a writer unknown to

the stage. Young playwrights, in

view of this fact, have no right to say

that a new man has "no chance."

I believe firmly that actor-managers

are only too glad to light upon fresh

talent. The author of "Count Tennyson"

has written several works of fiction,

but I do not suppose that that had

any special weight with Mr. Robertson.

"The play's the thing," and, indeed,

the presumption is rather

than a novelist being a good dramatist.

But Mr. Robertson is a man

who thinks and judges for himself.

OLD IZAAK.

The Thames, in common with most

other rivers, has been wholly out of

order for trout fishing, owing to the

continued storms, and very few fish

have been taken. It will not be fishable

for several days at least. Capt.

Allison caught a fine brown trout, scaling 7lb., at Shepperton, last week,

and more recently Mr. Wilson, of

Chertsey, has taken two, weighing 4lb.

and 2lb. respectively, both of which

he considerably returned to the river.

TROUT fishing does not commence in

the Lee until May 1, when, if the

weather settles down, some good fish

ought to be had. Mr. E. T. Ryan, of

Stamford, has met with success in the

Gwash, his two best fish scaling 3lb.

and 2lb. respectively.

I regret to say that the response of

military cyclists to the country's call

has been made in a very indifferent

manner. It is small wonder, how-

ever, that this has been the case since

the War Office searched the by-roads

and hedges for their last yeomanry at

5s. a day, while 1s. 8d. was thought

to be the best way to encourage

them to turn out.

After the first week, however, the

response was still poor, and the

War Office accepted the original offer

of Maj. Liles.

The general cycling activity at

Eastertide has brought its crop of

accidents. It is an unfortunate fact

that when cycling commences in

earnest, as it always does with the

Easter holidays, that these unfortunate

accidents which take place in the

old days, when nearly every man

or boy who bestrode a bicycle was a

practical rider, having control of his

machines and a knowledge of the rules

of the road.

In looking through the general press

and trade papers I find that there

THE STAGE.

LYCEUM.

To welcome back Sir Henry Irving, Miss Ellen Terry, and the company of their fellow players, once again on Monday night an audience distinguished alike socially and intellectually, came together, such as is only seen when the master of the English stage returns after a prolonged absence to gladden with his luminous artistry his legion of friends in his old home. The exhilarating throb of excitement before the rise of the curtain, beating in pleasant anticipation through the house, was quickened and intensified by the immediate advent of the long-



SIR HENRY IRVING AS CORIOLANUS.

promised and often-deferred production of "Coriolanus." The thrill was felt all the more strongly because no revival of the classic tragedy, with the single exception of its fugitive presentation by Mr. Benson, had been given for over 30 years. That the revival, with its restoration of old Rome in the early and simpler times of the Republic, realised satisfactorily from the designs of Sir Alma Tadema, R.A., would have an absorbing interest, both historically and pictorially for artists, students, and scholars generally was a foregone conclusion; but, whether its scenes could possess a corresponding magnetic attraction for the great body of pleasure-seekers forming the mighty constituents of the theatre, was the crucial question in the minds of all present, dependent upon the event, and to be tested by its result upon a general audience. Such interrogation could scarcely have found its reflective note in the great body of playgoers, hoping for the success of Irving's high artistic endeavour, were the belief not almost universally held that Coriolanus is, from the very nature of his character, wholly unsympathetic; and that the play of which he is the moving spirit is obviously lacking in dramatic fibre, owing to its want of variety, and the absence of feminine interest. Up to the closing scenes in the stated classic march the action is a monotonous wrangle between the low Roman rabble—too ignoble mean of purpose to know their own minds—and, at the other extreme, the haughty, insatiable patrician warrior, too insolently proud to give the fickle popu-

larity is in danger. In company as well as mounting the new drama which has just completed its week's trial run at Islington, was D'Arcy, complete and strong. Miss D'Arcy, as "the fair English race" in this land of mysterious custom and silent vengeance, brought to the part of the heroine her graceful presence and considerable experience. She is rarely absent from the episodes of "storm and stress," and if the authors have fastened upon her a quite Joan of Arc heroism, the young actress, notably when imprisoned and in the power of the Viceroy, carried through the suggestion of sterling womanhood with admirable consistency. Mr. Cordova was himself the exalted Chinaman; he gave to the character all that it needed. Mr. Harry Stanford, as a trifling impetuous rascal, made a manly hero. Mr. Ernest Lawford, who played the part of one of the attachés, was plausibly natural throughout, while Mr. York Stephens was as breezy and easy as ever an American journalist, who, while on the look out for copy, might be everywhere and do the right thing at the proper moment. Mr. Charles Fulten, of course, was convincing as the Mandarin, and withering him with the tempest of his wrath he turns to the guards with the passionate request, "Cut me to pieces, Volces!" This was the most moving scene, alike of the play and its chief player. Volumnia, with the harsher features of the stern Roman matron excised, proved a plaintive and persuasive pleader through her one telling scene of the mother's appeal to her son, as enacted with her wonted womanliness by Miss Ellen Terry. Perhaps the most perfect delineation in the cast was seen in the Menenius Agrippa of Mr. J. H. Barnes, whose light and shade of humour and feeling, always natural through its eloquent accomplishments, exactly expressed the opposite phases of the character. Another portrayal, at once manly and dignified, was the Cominius of Mr. Tyras. Mr. Laurence Irving and Mr. Hearn markedly individualised the two Tribunes, Junius Brutus and Sicinius Velutus; and Miss Mabel Hackney gracefully played Virgilia. As Tullus Aufidius, Mr. Ashcroft acted effectively.

Sir A. C. Mackenzie's incidental music appropriately supplemented the classic glamour of the tragedy, and scenes painted from Sir Alma Tadema's designs by Messrs. Hawes Craven, J. Harker, and W. H. Hana furnished a noble background to the action. At the conclusion of the play Sir Henry Irving, in response to round upon round of applause, thanked the audience as their "faithful, loving servant."

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THE METROPOLITAN.

The visitors here are in the course of a programme very much cut off the ordinary. Mr. H. H. Gaskins the manager of director, a gentleman of great experience in the variety world, and he quite understands the tastes of the discriminating denizens of Edgeware-nd. That Mr. Jack Edgar is a valuable factor in this undertaking is shown by the extraordinary list of stars that appear on the programme this week.

GRAND (ISLINGTON).

It was inevitable that sooner or later the stirring songs in and around Peking of a few months ago should be pressed into the service of the stage, and do duty in stirring the heart and thrilling the nerves of all of us in our more un-sophisticated moments. This does "The Mandarin" in most potent fashion, and albeit Mrs. Alicia Hanney and Mr. H. De Cordova put back the hand of history, and date their story 1888, one cannot but feel that the City of Shensi is the capital of the Celestial Empire under a stage name, and that mask which goes to make up the latest drama would never have been written but for the attack on the Legations in the dark week of 1860, when dogs are now chronicled in sets and dogmas.

The drama to be known to its special scenes when the cheers of the relatives forced with the hysterical joys of the relieved is reproduced in splendid purpose before curtain fall in "The Mandarin." Realtor could not surely go further than in the picture of the attack of the Chinese hordes on the English Legation at Shensi. The noise and smoke, the blood of the wounded and the dying, the shrieks of the women and children, the hand-to-hand fighting as the frenzied "pigtails" break down the barriers, the booming of heavy ordnance, the crack of revolvers, and the rattle of rifles—all this is presented with a grim force and a prolonged instance, which puts as great a strain on the feelings of the audience as it does on the imagination of the magazine. It is indeed a relief when the military break through the investing force and the curtain finally falls amid the applause of the audience and the stage tableau of be-grimed civilians and sturdy bimboes clasping hands over the weeping women-folks.

With an unsympathetic play such as this to work upon, Irving, keenly conscious as he must have been, of the up-hill task he had set himself, presumably gave his most earnest solicitude to gratifying their sense of beauty, by presenting before his audience noble pictorial scenes of ancient Rome, peopled with the citizens, both rich and poor, as they lived and moved, in the garb worn by them, about the streets and public places they dwelt in nearly 300 years before the first Caesar's invasion of Britain. Pageant after pageant, pleasing the eye, stimulating the brain, served to relieve and compensate the cruel monotony of the action. Notable is one scene, showing the amphitheatre of the Capitol, with the full scene in their white-robed togas rising to elect Coriolanus to consul; and another, giving the Forum with the Roman maidens waving palms over Coriolanus on his triumphal return from the war, as the populace, raising the victor in his purple chair on their shoulders, acclaimed him by his new and honoured name of Coriolanus.

COLLINS'S.

The unstinted praise justly earned by Sir Henry for his perfect setting of the play needs must be somewhat qualified when his part in the acting is con-

sidered. Consistent with itself his production of "Coriolanus" may be, but according to life as Shakespeare, closely following Plautus, so unmistakably draws the character—a brave warrior, but moved by such inordinate pride as incites him, in unbridled passion, to give vent dexterously and without restraint to his mocking scorn of all about him, patricians as well as plebeians? But it is with quiet contempt and calm composure that Sir Henry presents him—coldly sneering where, according to the text, he should hot rage, and consistently with Plautus's description of his fierce un-governable temper. Like Timon, though from a different motive, Coriolanus is a loud-tongued, passionate declaimer against those he hates; gentle only to those he loves—his mother, wife, and little son. In the great scene with these three, where Volumnia's piteous prayers melt the man of violent mood to mercy, the actor's tenderness held the audience in its brief spell—an illusive effect, finely contrasted against his thunderclap of scathing scorn when taunted by Tullus Aufidius, and withering him with the tempest of his wrath he turns to the guards with the passionate request, "Cut me to pieces, Volces!" This was the most moving scene, alike of the play and its chief player. Volumnia, with the harsher features of the stern Roman matron excised, proved a plaintive and persuasive pleader through her one telling scene of the mother's appeal to her son, as enacted with her wonted womanliness by Miss Ellen Terry. Perhaps the most perfect delineation in the cast was seen in the Menenius Agrippa of Mr. J. H. Barnes, whose light and shade of humour and feeling, always natural through its eloquent accomplishments, exactly expressed the opposite phases of the character. Another portrayal, at once manly and dignified, was the Cominius of Mr. Tyras. Mr. Laurence Irving and Mr. Hearn markedly individualised the two Tribunes, Junius Brutus and Sicinius Velutus; and Miss Mabel Hackney gracefully played Virgilia. As Tullus Aufidius, Mr. Ashcroft acted effectively.

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TALK OF THE PEOPLE.

WAR: LATEST.

BOER TREK TO GERMAN TERRITORY.

GERMANY'S DISAPPROVAL.

The Budget is dealt with elsewhere, but it is an exclusively the subject of conversation that I cannot avoid, even at the risk of wearying you, saying something more about it. That any expedient which could be devised for meeting a deficit of fifty-five millions would cause dissatisfaction in some quarter or other goes without saying, and that everyone of us would think that more of the burden ought to have been put upon someone else and taken of himself is equally certain. But, barring these little eccentricities, which are common to all taxpayers, I think most of us have come to the conclusion that it is a tolerably fair and a conspicuously honest Budget upon the whole.

The working man and the income-tax payer alike realise that the necessary tax will be put upon them of either a very expensive war at once, or having in the near future nothing but war fighting about, and have thought, and rightly thought, that the first alternative was the only one which would suit either of them. The mass of us, knowing this, have been perfectly prepared to pay for the necessary outlay, just as we should be prepared to pay if it was a case of our own private business. We only asked that the cost should fairly be divided among the different classes among ourselves and between ourselves, and those who come after us who will reap more than we shall of the benefits of the war. Taking it all round that has been done, and we still feel that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has, at any rate, tried very hard to be perfectly fair.

U.S. BOER LEAGUE SENDS A DELEGATE TO KRUGER.

Amsterdam, April 20.—The Princess Salim, who is called President of the Boer League in New York, has arrived here to confer with Kruger. Her mission is concerned with the urgent request of the Boer committee in New York that Kruger should visit America in May or June.

CENTRAL NEWS.

CHINA.

BURNING OF THE WINTER PALACE.

COUNT WALDERSPEER'S DISPATCH.

Berlin, April 20.—Count von Walderspeier, 22, president of N. and E. Lancashire and Duff and Dumb Society, of which he was a most generous patron. The body of a woman was recovered from the River Irwell, near Bury, by Samuel Butterworth, and identified as that of Elizabeth Alina, who has been missing several weeks.

Wm. Cole, 41, Wm. Ley, 20, and Wm. Cole, 40, were remanded at Bristol charged with stealing and receiving meat and sausages, the property of Eastman's, Limited.

The body of a fully-developed female child was found on Middleton Banks, Hocklepool, by Thomas Abbott. There was some string tied round one foot, but nothing to lead to identification.

Isaiah Gorton, builder, and Thomas, labourer, were each fined 20s and costs for selling beer without a license in a shop at Morecambe, styled the Working Men's or Ratcatcher's Club.

Judge Stevenson refused to accept a certificate of brain affection for the non-attendance of Capt. Kerr, charged with gross contempt of court in having removed his steamer, which had been security for debt.

John Hawby, Benjamin Jones, and Ernest Harrison, charged at Deal with breaking into a grocery establishment and stealing money and goods, were sentenced, Jones to nine months, Hawby to six months, and Harrison to four months.

Mary Tranter, wife of a soldier serving in South Africa, was summoned at Coventry for neglecting her two children. One of the children died from whooping-cough, and was found lying on the sofa with the younger child.

Discharged with a caution.

LATEST ELECTRIC FLASHES.

HOME.

John Martin, 26, bricklayer, was remanded at Leeds, on a charge of wanton cruelty to a sheep.

Harry Hardman, 16, was killed by the fall of a crane at Mr. S. Walker's Eagle Ironworks, Huddersfield.

Wm. Verdi, potter, was remanded at Burslem, charged with shooting Thos. Smith at Tunstall.

At Glasgow there were three fresh cases of small-pox and one death. The remainder of the patients in hospital is 160.

A coster and commission agent, giving his name as Dennis Coffe, was fined 2s. at Kettering for travelling on the Mid. Ry. without a ticket.

A new Radical club was opened at Whitworth by Ald. J. Duckworth, Radical candidate for the Middleton division at the last election.

Upwards of 1,000 men in the hansom section of the chain trade came out on strike against a 10 per cent. reduction.

Elizabeth Humpage was remanded at Wednesbury on the charge of robbing property stolen by boys from the W. Ry. Station.

At Sheffield, Frank Scott, charged with neglecting his five children, was sentenced to two months. He could earn 2s. a week, but was said to be incorrigibly idle.

The resignation is announced of Archdeacon Rawstorne, for 22 years president of N. and E. Lancashire and Duff and Dumb Society, of which he was a most generous patron.

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FOREIGN.

M. DELACASSE, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, LEFT PARIS YESTERDAY FOR RUSSIA.

The Emperor William has presented the Duke of Abercrombie with his bust in marble.

The Duke, with the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall on board, passed Mahon at 10 p.m. yesterday.

Two cyclists were killed yesterday in the Bois de Boulogne, Paris, through a collision with an autocar.

The victims were shockingly mangled by the car.—Dashed.

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John Hawby, Benjamin Jones, and Ernest Harrison, charged at Deal with breaking into a grocery establishment and stealing money and goods, were sentenced, Jones to nine months, Hawby to six months, and Harrison to four months.

Mary Tranter, wife of a soldier serving in South Africa, was summoned at Coventry for neglecting her two children.

One of the children died from whooping-cough, and was found lying on the sofa with the younger child.

Discharged with a caution.

ALLEGED RAILWAY OUTRAGE.

Thomas James Mottingley, 21, clerk of Wimborne-royal, Totteworth, was charged at North London Police Court yesterday, with assaulting a young married woman, named Gertrude Purdy, residing at Hoe.

Wm. Cole, 41, Wm. Ley, 20, and Wm. Cole, 40, were remanded at Bristol charged with stealing and receiving meat and sausages, the property of Eastman's, Limited.

The body of a female child was found on Middleton Banks, Hocklepool, by Thomas Abbott. There was some string tied round one foot, but nothing to lead to identification.

Isaiah Gorton, builder, and Thomas, labourer, were each fined 20s and costs for selling beer without a license in a shop at Morecambe, styled the Working Men's or Ratcatcher's Club.

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Mr. Wilkins was a bookmaker of Balsall, and there had not been time to communicate with him.—Formal evidence of arrest was then given, and the prisoner was remanded, bail in £50 being consented to.

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CLINTON'S GOLD CONCESSIONS (Limited).

WEST AFRICA.

CAPITAL - - £100,000.

DIVIDED INTO 400,000 SHARES OF £1 EACH.

Of which 120,000 shares are appropriated for working capital.

50,000 SHARES OF £1 EACH ARE NOW OFFERED FOR SUBSCRIPTION (shares of 50,000 have

already been subscribed on the memorandum of association).

PAYABLE AS FOLLOWS:

£1.00 per share on Application, and is on Allotment, the balance in calls not exceeding £1.00 each at intervals of not less than three months.

The minimum subscription of 10 per cent. on the original capital on which the Directors may proceed to allotment is already provided for by the £100,000 subscribed for on the memorandum of association.

100,000 fully-paid shares will be allotted to the vendors in part payment of the purchase price.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. JOHN STOKES, late R.E., R.C.E. (a Vice-President of the Suez Canal Co., Ltd.), of Spring House, Ewell, Surrey.

Mr. WALTER BULLER, K.C.M.O., F.R.S., of 43, Southgate-place, S.W.

CHARLES H. NEWMAN (Chairman of the Adelphi Syndicate, Ltd.), of 6, Old Jewry, E.C.

HENRY JOHN BROWN (Chairman of the Tete Concessions Syndicate, Ltd., and Director of the Mirim Valley Gold Mining and Dredging Co., Ltd.), of 8, Avenue Mansa, N.W.

F. O. ELLISON (Director of the Abemeha Syndicate, Ltd.), of 6, George-street, Finsbury, W.

JOHN BLAIR WHITE (Director of the Praha Gold Mine, Ltd.), of 22, Ludgate-gardens, W.

BARRERS.

London: Parr's Bank (Ltd.), Bartholomew-lane, and Branches; the Bank of British West Africa (Ltd.), 4, St. Mary-axe, E.C.; Liverpool: Parr's Bank (Ltd.), Great Charlotte-street, Liverpool; the Bank of British West Africa (Ltd.), 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

SOLICITORS.

SUTTON, OMANNET, and RENDALL, 3 and 4, Great Winchester-street, E.C.; LAWRENCE JONES and Co., African House, Liverpool.

BROKERS.

H. W. MEYERSTEIN and Co., 1, Draper's-gardens, and Stock Exchange, E.C.

CONSULTING ENGINEERS.

ELDER, DEMPSTER, and Co., London, Liverpool, and West Africa.

AUDITORS.

A. DANGERFIELD and Co., Chartered Accountants, 14, Cannon-street, E.C.

REGISTRED OFFICES.

GEO. T. BROADBRIDGE, F.L.S.

REGISTRED OFFICES.

6, OLD JEWRY, LONDON, E.C.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

THIS company has been formed to explore 200,000 acres of land in the Gold and Timber Concessions in West Africa, the relative positions of which are indicated upon the map accompanying prospectus.

The company will also acquire the old-established business of Messrs. H. C. Clinton and Co., who were timber merchants on the West Coast for many years past. In carrying on their business, Messrs. Clinton have had exceptional opportunities of obtaining gold and other concessions upon favourable terms, and in the most promising districts.

The total area of the concessions cannot be definitely stated until the necessary surveys have been completed; but, according to the dimensions stated in the leases, they are estimated to cover an area of not less than 1,000 square miles.

The whole or a large majority of the concessions are believed to be highly productive, some being very favourably located in the heart of the Western district, only a short distance from the Tarkwa River, which forms the boundary line of the concession, forming a natural outlet for the products to be acquired, affording transport facilities to the coast, and the construction of the railway to Xambo will further improve the means of communication.

Messrs. Clinton, who secured the whole of the leases mentioned in the schedule, have for many years past successfully worked the timber rights, which, apart from the gold deposits, should form a valuable asset of the company. The situation of Concessions Nos. 17 and 18, in the neighbourhood of the Tarkwa River, is particularly favourable, and some surveys have been made under the timber rights of exceptional value.

The large amount of timber in the company's possession will be available for transport purposes in connection with the prospecting and development of the area upon which the company proposes to concentrate its operations.

Messrs. C. F. Chapman and W. H. Wilson, Incorporated Directors, have been appointed to be managers of the company for a term of years, and have undertaken to give the company the best services. Their appointment has been duly registered at the Office of the Company.

On reference to the following schedule, it will be seen that the 12th and 13th, the 15th, the 16th, and the 17th, will be the dates of being made good prior to October 10th, 1895, and are therefore to be considered as preliminary completed. In addition to these, the following are applicable to the concessions Ordinance in respect of the number of shares to be issued to Mr. H. C. Clinton to be not less than 400 shares per acre. All concessions have been duly registered at the Office of the Company.

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LORD ROBERTS' ROLL OF HONOUR.

A DESPATCH IN PRAISE OF OFFICERS.

In the "London Gazette," this week, was published a long despatch from Lord Roberts, in which the Commander-in-Chief brings to the notice of the Secretary for War the excellent work done during the South African campaign up to November 20 last, by the various departments of the Army, and mentions the names of some of those who have most prominently distinguished themselves. His lordship warmly acknowledges the services of the privately organised hospitals, hospital trains, and hospital ships. Having dealt with all this detail of the various departments, his lordship passes on to refer to those distinguished servants in other spheres of activity with whom he co-operated, and to the officers whose names he specially brings to the notice of the Secretary of State. Grateful acknowledgment is made to the co-operative efforts of Sir W. Holt-Hutchinson, Sir Godfrey Legden, Rear-Admiral Sir H. H. Harris, Major-General W. F. Kelly (then D.A.G. and subsequently A.G.), Major-General Sir W. Nicholson, Lord Stanley (who rendered "valuable assistance" as private secretary), Lieut.-Col. H. C. Caman, R.A., military secretary, Capt. A. C. M. Waterfield (assistant military secretary and a young officer of considerable promise), Capt. H. R. Viscount Downe, and to other staff officers.

SIR A. MILNER AND LORD KITCHENER. Two of these acknowledgements it will be of interest to quote verbatim: "The despatch would be incomplete were it not to mention the benefit I have derived from the unfailing support and wise counsel of Sir Alfred Milner. I can only say here that I have felt it a high privilege to work in close association with one who commands such unfeigned honour and whose qualities might be much surrounded him, and, notwithstanding the absorbing care of his office, seemed always able to find time for a helpful message or for the tactful solution of a difficult question." "The Khartoum, G.C.B., K.C.M.G., H.E., has, as my Chief of the Staff, rendered me unfailing and every loyal support, and I am greatly indebted to him for the valuable assistance he at all times afforded me. He has had a difficult position, and has discharged his duties with conspicuous ability and credit. I am sure that the Army South Africa to whom I am Chief of the Staff can the utmost confidence that he would do all that man could do to bring the present phase of the war to a speedy conclusion."

COLONEL IAN HAMILTON. C.B., D.S.O., is mentioned with special generosity. "I have long had occasion," remarks his lordship, "to recognise the exceptional military qualities of this officer, and the high expectations which I had formed of his capacity for command have been amply justified." Specially noteworthy are his lordship's remarks on several officers of the Imperial Yeomanry and the Colonials. Several paragraphs cannot be passed over:

"Col. Lord Chaytor, Imperial Yeomanry, as one of the prime movers for the employment of Yeomanry in the field, and more particularly as one of the General Officers Commanding the Yeomanry with distinction and dash, I have no doubt of his undoubted fitness to command. But the most distinguished man I have seen in command of the General Troops which, under Lieut.-Col. Dugdale, so gallantly defended Mafeking, is Lieut.-Col. Ian Hamilton, who, in his representation of the less important forces in the Cape, and aided by his fellow-commanders, has furnished an excellent lesson in loyalty and devotion to the Crown."

Col. Durnford, as G.O.C. Natal Colony, has maintained the best traditions of his Master, General Popham, for whom he has more than once shown great service in the execution of the Colonists of Natal, and he possesses the greatest influence over the native."

Col. T. B. Hobson, has on several occasions, as a soldier, his qualities when in command of the Royal Engineers, and when in command of the Royal Cavalry for the relief of Mafeking. He had a quick and good eye for country."

Col. H. Cholmondeley did excellent service as commander of the G.O.C. Mounted Infantry, and proved himself a man who was thoroughly well qualified for the responsible post, and has earned the warmest commendations both for himself and his men, and all of the G.O.C.'s with whom he has served.

FAMOUS CHIEFS.

The Right Hon. Sir Redvers Buller, G.C.B., K.C.M.G., V.C., had the chief command of forces under my service in the early part of January, 1900, when his command was in command of the Naval Forces, and carried out the difficult operations terminating in the relief of Ladysmith. Subsequent to that event his command part of the main army, which had for the time been the command of the Transvaal.

Col. Lord Mathews, K.C.V.O., C.B., C.M.G., has been in command of a division since the first despatch of troops from England in October, 1899. The manner in which he has kept his command at all times ready and complete for service, the care with which he has conducted his division, combined with his energy and conspicuous courage, largely contributed to the comparative quiet on the western border of the Transvaal.

Col. Gen. Sir A. Winter, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., is an officer possessed of great soldierly qualities and considerable experience in war. He came out to South Africa as Chief of the Staff of the R.A. in October, 1899, to the force of circumstances, himself during the siege of Ladysmith, as Chief Staff Officer to Sir G. White. He was in his division, came under my direct command in April, 1900, since when he has performed his duty in connection with the arrangements for the relief of Mafeking, and the capture of Gobabis.

Col. Gen. J. D. P. French, as G.O.C. Cavalry, has on every occasion rendered valuable service. He never makes difficult work in a man of exceptional nerve. His soldierly qualities are only equalled by his sound tact, his unerring instinct, and his perfect loyalty. His services have been of inestimable value to the Empire as well as to myself."

Col. W. H. Mackenzie commanded the 1st C.I.V. troops. In this position, he is mentioned in the annals of our military history, as displayed tact, judgment, and resources. He is an able soldier, and has done his duty well.

Col. Gen. Sir G. White, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., is an officer possessed of great soldierly qualities and considerable experience in war. He came out to South Africa as Chief of the Staff of the R.A. in October, 1899, to the force of circumstances, himself during the siege of Ladysmith, as Chief Staff Officer to Sir G. White. He was in his division, came under my direct command in April, 1900, since when he has performed his duty in connection with the arrangements for the relief of Mafeking, and the capture of Gobabis.

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THE RETURN OF THE WANDERER.

It may be news to the majority of our intelligent readers that London discovered Essex. Essex existed some years before London was thought of, so did the island that Robinson Crusoe (following in the wake of Juan Fernandez) discovered, before the rude waves of the deserted shores. Essex has gradually been explored from the time that Tomhawk, a young offspring of the capital, blossomed forth into select piles of new brick. Hidden away in the extreme wilds of West Essex is a village of the suggestive name of Tensley. Poverty took its seat there some 60 years ago. The sturdy villagers gazed the repellent monster, but its icy hands, not to be denied, remorselessly tightened on their almost hopeless wreath of property.

Hearts. Several of the more adventurous of the Teardropites had wandered forth upon the earth, but they never returned. They were wise in their generation. "I tell 'em," said the oldest inhabitant, "the good times will come again, if we have patience to wait for 'em." The patriarch had waited for "em" some 93 years, and the more he grew, the more hopeful he seemed to be. "None of the lads have come back, and we never 'ear from 'em, but there was bought in most of 'em; come to think, they were one promiscuous lad, Bill Grittie's younger; there was a lot in that boy, and I have heard 'ow that Grittie Jane, down you, who has been buried at the two-score year, said he would never want a root over his head, or new ramament on his body for the want of askin'. 'E owes me threepence to this day," and the oldest inhabitant relapsed into silence and memory of "a threepenny worth of wrong."

The next morning excitement reigned in the village of Tensley. It had been reported by the man that was in Blew's field that a stranger crowned with a tall silk hat of prehistoric date and clothed in superfine broadcloth, the monotony of which was relieved by a gold chain, had signalled him over the hedge with an umbrella, and then suddenly disappeared. That evening in the parlour of the Teardropites the man of Blew's field was being put through a stiff cross-examination as to where the gorgeously-apparelled stranger had vanished to, and Blew's man had, after a thoughtful pause, suggested the hedge-gutter, when a loud knocking was heard on the counter, in answer to a summons to enter. The missing stranger appeared. He gazed round at the village revellers with a wandering sort of eye. "Do you know who I am?" he queried in a hoarse, wrapped voice. "I've returned at last, fortin has smiled on me, and I've a cheap return ticket; shake hands, Miles Stone." This was the name of the oldest inhabitant. Miles fixed a sullen and doubtful eye on the stranger, and in his Sunday best English replied as follows: "With all due reverence to you, honoured sir, I should like to know yer Christian name afore I shake." The stranger doffed his rusty three-decker. "Wot, does no one recognise me after all my years of wanderin'? I'm little Billy Grittie," and Billy, overcome with emotion, snatched up someone else's beret and drank it at one gulp. "Afore I shake hands with yer, my lad," remarked Miles Stone, "there's a little matter to be settled us; it's been standing over since I last saw yer, some 45 years or more ago. I want my threepence." And Miles sat down and sniffed with righteous indignation. "As the owner of the house, any change? Here's a five-penni-note, and with that negligent indifference to riches, more popularly associated with millionaires, Bill, the wanderer floured a very crisp piece of paper in the air. The landlord, at the mention of a five-pound note, turned pale, and staggered against a table, breaking two glasses, and they had to take him in the back garden to bring him round, while one or two of the rustic carousers had to walk poor old Miles up and down in front of the house to restore his circulation. After searching the village through, and borrowing the life-long savings of Miser Jenkins, the required change was gathered. But they had to hold one man down when the big-hearted Billy announced that they could spend the change. Loud cheers greeted that wild burst of generosity. With the landlord it brought on "palpitation," whilst the village postman broke down and cried like a baby. Miles shook hands in a most fervent manner, and said he could have another threepence. Billy promptly accepted. The scene of revelry baffled description. Billy scrambled two shillingworth of coppers amongst the village children. The next morning a select band, consisting of a bassoon and an accordion, played Billy to the station. He gave a hearty farewell speech. The village for the first hour after his departure dissolved into tears. Then they compared notes, all round for small loans, ranging from a pipe of tobacco to a sovereign. On the second day appalling news arrived. The landlord promptly went up. Only one man had faith in the absent Billy. That was the oldest inhabitant, who declared that Billy was an "eccentric millionaire, and was always fond of practical jokes," and said he held his town address. It was a high sounding one, Oldbourne House, Itchen Common, London. The villagers met and sent an eloquent letter to him. No answer was forthcoming. They forwarded more letters still, more eloquent, finally becoming forcible in language, with the same result. Then they clubbed together for a railway fare up to London. The aged Miles volunteered to undertake the journey. He arrived at Itchen Common. A light broke upon his soul when he saw written on the portals

of the shades of Billy, Oldbourne Workhouse, and read the following rule by the side of a pair of powerful eyeglasses. "Any pauper wishing for employment will be provided with a new suit of clothes, a watch and chain, and his railway fare paid to his prospective employer's address." Miles returned, and to this day Tensley, poor but proud, hides its mortification at the duplicity of the artful pauperised Billy Grittie.

CHRIS.

CHELSEA LADY'S DEATH.

GRAVE CHARGE AGAINST A DOCTOR.



SENSATIONAL EVIDENCE.

Dr. Oswald, at Chelsea, resumed the inquest on Mrs. Florence Bromley-Smith, with the constructive murder of whom, by means of an alleged illegal operation, Dr. Sydney Smith, of Wandsworth Bridge rd., stands charged. In her deposition, taken before her death on March 23, deceased stated that Dr. Smith did something to her, and she paid him £20. The deceased was represented by Mr. G. Stephenson, and Mr. Bristow appeared for Dr. Smith. Mary Crossman, of Bishop's, Chelsea, said deceased had lodged with her for four or five years. She had no occupation. In the middle of January deceased told her she was in a certain condition, and asked her not to tell her friends, nor to run on her. At the end of January deceased went with her to see a Mrs. Marshall, of Dalhousie rd., Brixton. Deceased asked Mrs. Marshall if she knew anyone who could be of service.

Witness asked Mrs. Marshall not to prosecute her, and Mrs. Marshall wrote to deceased, stating that she could not help her. Witness thanked Mrs. Marshall for her letter. The first time Dr. Smith was called at Sydney-st., to her knowledge, was March 7. Coronor: What do you think he became for? Witness: I don't know—Autrey Harver, Davenport-Knight, medical student, said he lent Mrs. Bromley-Smith £20 in gold on the first Tuesday in January "to pay a pressing debt." Mr. Stephenson said he thought he ought to state that there was no suspicion on any kind against Mr. Knight, who had

inquired, "What do you think he became for?" Dr. W. A. Bonney, Elm Park-gardens, S.W., said he was called in to see Mrs. Bromley-Smith on March 20. He found her dangerously ill. On the 22nd she told him she had had a miscarriage, and that something had been done to her. W. T. Smith called in Dr. Duncan, of Harley-st., Mr. Cust, a magistrate, took her depositions, after which had informed her that she was a dying woman. Cross-examined by Mr. Bristow, witness said he knew that Dr. Smith had called in Dr. Bonney, obstetric physician to a well-known hospital—Distr.-Inst. Hayter produced.

A DIARY KEPT BY DECEASED. This contained various entries. Under date Jan. 12 were the words: "Wellton called and gave me very bad news. No hope. Agony of mind." On Jan. 16 were the words, "I at t'm feel hopeless for myself." On the following day were the words, "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Feb. 4: "Mrs. M. can't help me." Feb. 5: "A man came to see me in answer to my letter. A load off my mind. Some hope." On Feb. 6: "Met A. D. K. for money." On Feb. 7: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Feb. 8 and 9 were entries

CONCERNING BROMLEY-SMITH'S HEALTH. On Feb. 10 were the words, "Underwent a severe attack of diarrhoea, and was unable to get up." On Feb. 11: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel very well."

On Feb. 12: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Feb. 13: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Feb. 14: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Feb. 15: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Feb. 16: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Feb. 17: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Feb. 18: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Feb. 19: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Feb. 20: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Feb. 21: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Feb. 22: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Feb. 23: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Feb. 24: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Feb. 25: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Feb. 26: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Feb. 27: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Feb. 28: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Feb. 29: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Feb. 30: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Feb. 31: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Mar. 1: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Mar. 2: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Mar. 3: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Mar. 4: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Mar. 5: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Mar. 6: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Mar. 7: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Mar. 8: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Mar. 9: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Mar. 10: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Mar. 11: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Mar. 12: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Mar. 13: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Mar. 14: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Mar. 15: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Mar. 16: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Mar. 17: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Mar. 18: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." 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On Mar. 38: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Mar. 39: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Mar. 40: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Mar. 41: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Mar. 42: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Mar. 43: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Mar. 44: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." On Mar. 45: "Went to see a doctor, and was told I had a miscarriage. I am now a widow." On Mar. 46: "Stayed in to see a man." Lower down the same day in the diary were the words, "So far feel all right." 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**SATURDAY'S SPORTS
OF
THE PEOPLE.**

**FOOTBALL
ASSOCIATION.**

**THE ENGLISH CUP
FINAL TIE.**

**A GREAT GAME ENDS IN A
"TWO EACH" DRAW.**

SPECIAL REPORT.

Such a final tie as this has never previously been seen in the history of Association football. London has not had a direct interest in the last match of the English Cup competition since the palmy days of the Old Public School Boys 10 years ago. Since that time football has made rapid strides in popularity. For many years the final was largely a provincial annual affair. County teams fought out the issue with such provoking regularity, and Metropolitan interest was (Tottenham Hotspur), mostly sentimental or lukewarm, while the provinces supplied the enthusiasm — thanks to the enterprise of the great railway companies that run between London and the North and Midlands, and brought up the people by thousands. But of late years the South has begun to take a bigger share in the game of the working classes, and now that a London team had got into the final a record crowd was fully expected at the Crystal Palace. This was practically assured from London alone.

THE WEATHER.

Fine weather is usually associated with Cup ties since the Palace and the Football Association joined hands. Yorkshire, Lancashire and the Midlands poured their hordes into London by thousands to cheer on "Blades."

THE SCENE IN LONDON.

London streets were alive with excursionists at six o'clock in the morning. There was no trouble in getting the people to London, but getting them to the Crystal Palace was another matter. The resources of the metropolitan companies were taxed to the uttermost, although many Londoners preferred to travel to Sydenham by road. Four-in-hands and all classes of vehicles turned out in huge numbers, so that it was like a Derby Day.

OUR MAN TAKES A MOTOR.

Representatives of "The People," with sundry other Pressmen, had a quick and pleasant journey by road on a six-horse-power Panhard motor-car. The red and white colours of Hotspur were conspicuous on the road, but the red and white of Sheffield United had a big show when we reached the Palace.

A BROAD GATE.

It was palpable from an early hour that all records as to attendance would be broken. The sloped banks of stands surrounding the arena were black with human beings an hour before the advertised starting time, and the cry was "still they come."

WAITING FOR THE START.

The sun shone brilliantly from early morning, and the scene at the start, half an hour from the start, was a brilliant one. The trees on the Peacock side of the ground were emphasised by the fact that the people had broken through the barriers, but not to any appreciable extent. The Crystal Palace Band performed selections of music to keep the people in good humour. Five minutes before the time to kick-off, Sheffield United appeared, and were hailed with great cheering; but the reception of the Spur, a minute later, was even greater. The United were in evidence, and Lipsham chose to kick with the wind in their favour. It was not strong, however, and Sheffield were prominent first on the left, but it was not a severe attack. The right came down directly after, and Bennett centred, but Tait cleared. The Spur gained relief, but it was only temporary, and Needham was soon in evidence, and placed Lipsham, but the latter player spoiled the chance by getting onside. A beautiful piece of play by Brown and Copeland roused the enthusiasm of Tottenham supporters, and it was nipped in the bud by the United backs, and the Spur had to retire. The Spur gained relief, but it was only temporary, and Needham was soon in evidence, and placed Lipsham, but the latter player spoiled the chance by getting onside. A

beautiful piece of play by Brown and Copeland roused the enthusiasm of Tottenham supporters, and it was nipped in the bud by the United backs, and the Spur had to retire. The Spur gained relief, but it was only temporary, and Needham was soon in evidence, and placed Lipsham, but the latter player spoiled the chance by getting onside. A

FIRST BLOW FOR UNITED.

Ten minutes from the start a beautiful opening occurred, for Priest had no opposition to face beyond the goal-keeper, and he succeeded in opening the score for the provincials. Nothing daunted, Hotspur went up the field from the centre kick, and Foulkes had to clear, which he did effectively, and the Spur had to retire. A minute or two later the Tottenham left ran up and placed Smith, who shot for goal. In clearing

FOULSES WAS PENALISED.

for carrying the ball, and the Spur had a free kick, but they made little use of it. One of the United team

was winded, and the game stopped for half a minute, but he went on playing again. With the wind against them, and the sun in their faces, Tottenham were acting largely on the defensive, but they were by no means hard pressed as a rule. A foul against one of the United backs for jumping enabled the Spur to trouble Foulkes again, but he was equal to the occasion.

SPURS MAKE EVEN.

A similar opportunity occurred directly after, and 25 minutes from the start Jones passed to Brown, who had past Foulkes, equalising the game. This success gave the Spur courage, and their forwards played with redoubled dash, and kept the Sheffield backs busy. As they got pressed the

"BLADES" BECAME ROUGHER,

and were often penalised. The game got exciting when the Spur's centre broke through and passed to the right, but Smith only had a corner, which was easily cleared. The United replied with another corner, and the struggle grew quite lively. The London team now taking a very fair share of the attack. "Hands" against Tottenham enabled the United to look dangerous, and

CLAWLEY HAD TO HANDLE.

while directly after the Tottenham goalkeeper cleared in miraculous fashion from Morris, when on the ground. Smith broke away up the Tottenham right and passed to the centre, who returned the ball, but just as Smith was getting dangerous he was charged off the ball. Directly afterwards Kirwan made a fine individual run, from which he shot straight, but Foulkes was on the alert, and the United returned to the attack, only to force a fruitless corner. Tottenham had another unsuccessful attack on Foulkes's strong-hold, and Sheffield had a dash for Clawley, before the half-time whistle blew, with the score at one goal each. As usual, both teams left the field at the interval, and some five minutes' rest was taken.

AMAZING SAVES BY FOULKES.

Resuming, Sheffield were the first to advance, but the Spur soon replied on the right, and gained a corner, from which Brown shot, and Foulkes saved what looked a certain goal in marvelous fashion. Both teams went to work in the determined fashion, and the tide of battle swayed from end to end with great rapidity, but the second half was only five minutes old when the Spur's forwards executed a beautiful movement, which resulted in

BROWN SHOOTING A SECOND GOAL.

for Tottenham amidst tremendous cheering. The joy of the Spur supporters was but short lived, however, as almost from the centre kick the United forwards broke away, and although Clawley managed to stay away, a shot from Bennett was hustled through the goal before he could really clear, and the

UNITED CLIMBED A GOAL.

It was allowed. The match now got more exciting than ever, especially when the Spur came very near breaking the gigantic Sheffield custodian a minute later. The crowd cheered and clapped, until the game was nearly over, when the made desperate efforts to equalise. The red and Manchester City won by 2 goals to 1.

SPURS WERE NOW RATHER WILD

in their shots. Thickett had to clear from a smart right-wing attack, and the Spur took another corner without result. Tottenham were still active, and Copeland worried Thickett again, and for a time the United were clearly playing second fiddle, but Hedley got a nice shot which just skimmed the bar. Once more the tide of battle swayed most uncertainly, both sets of forwards making occasional fast movements, but none of them were really incisive. It must be said, however, that this point were certainly playing the stronger game. Tottenham bucked up a quarter of an hour from the finish, and a beautiful bit of forward play enabled Brown to shoot, but his elevation was wrong. Excitement became intense as time wore on, but without further score. The United play grew stronger, especially amongst the halves, and Clawley had a lot to do, but he performed in splendid style. A great shout went up when the play was decidedly looking in the favour of the United, and the goal-keepers were soon hard pressed, pay for the most part being midfiled. Just on time, however, Whistler got through for the Spur, and shortly before the final Queen's Park Rangers had scored again for the Rangers, they pulled themselves together, and shortly before the final A. Chadwick registered their solitary point. Queen's Park Rangers thus was a poor game by 2 goals to 1.

NOTTS FOREST v. ASTON VILLA.

At Nottingham, The Forest were still active, and Copeland worried Thickett again, and for a time the United were clearly playing second fiddle, but Hedley got a nice shot which just skimmed the bar. Once more the tide of battle swayed most uncertainly, both sets of forwards making occasional fast movements, but none of them were really incisive. It must be said, however, that this point were certainly playing the stronger game. Tottenham bucked up a quarter of an hour from the finish, and a beautiful bit of forward play enabled Brown to shoot, but his elevation was wrong. Excitement became intense as time wore on, but without further score. The United play grew stronger, especially amongst the halves, and Clawley had a lot to do, but he performed in

THE SHEFFIELD FORWARD.

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REMARKS ON THE GAME.

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